

**HILLTOP HIKERS DECEMBER 2019 HIKING SCHEDULE
CELEBRATING 26 YEARS!**

DECEMBER 1 SUNDAY 9:30 AM CRAIG PITTMAN TRAILHEAD (NAVARRE) ON THE TOWPATH Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Meet at Craig Pittman Memorial Park by the water treatment plant on Canal St. in Navarre. Approximate address: [8062 Hudson Dr. SW, Navarre](#) (Hudson Dr. also called Canal St.). Directions: Take Rte. 21 to Canal St. in Navarre, turn east on Canal St., pass Bethlehem Park. Parking lot is on the right. Or take I-77 to Fohl Rd. exit. Turn right and follow to Navarre. Cut through Bethlehem Park (a left off Fohl) and turn left onto Canal St. and right into Craig Pittman Park. Leader: **Denver Fitzgerald**

DECEMBER 1 SUNDAY 2 PM WILBETH TRAILHEAD/BUCKEYE TRAIL Level 2, 5 miles (BT= 5 miles), RR. Address: [392 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron](#). Directions: Take I-77/224 west to Manchester Rd. (Rte. 93) exit, turn right on 93 and go north. Make right onto Wilbeth road. Trailhead entrance on the right. If you are coming from the south, heading north on Rte. 93, you will then make a right onto Wilbeth Rd. and the trailhead parking lot will be on the right. We will hike the Towpath first north to Summit Lake and then south to get enough mileage. Leader: **Lynn Lenart**

DECEMBER 2 MONDAY 9:30 AM FRY FAMILY PARK HIKE Level 3, 5 miles, RR. Address: [2533 Farber St. SE, Magnolia](#). Directions: I-77 south, take the Cleveland Ave./Rte. 800 exit (exit # 103). Turn south onto Rte. 800 and after approximately 8.5 miles turn left onto Farber St. SE. The park will be 3/10 of a mile on the left. Drive through the park to the picnic shelter on the hill. Rolling terrain and various trails on grass. Leader: **Glen Whipple**

DECEMBER 3 TUESDAY 9:30 AM CRYSTAL SPRINGS TRAILHEAD Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Address: [4503 Erie Ave. NW, Massillon](#). Meet at the Crystal Springs parking lot on Erie St. across from Bocca Grande Restaurant between Canal Fulton and Massillon close to High Mill. We will hike the Towpath. Leader: **Roseanne Swigart**

DECEMBER 3 TUESDAY 5:30 PM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HIKE CANTON PARKS FROM THE GARDEN CENTER Level 1, 3 miles, RR (may not be available nights or weekends). Meet at the Garden Center Parking Lot. Address: [1615 Stadium Park Dr. NW, Canton](#). Directions: Enter the park from 12th street, make left onto Stadium Park Dr. and go to the Garden Center Lot. We will hike Stadium Park and look at the Christmas lights. **BRING A FLASHLIGHT.** Leader: **Linda Shaheen**

DECEMBER 4 WEDNESDAY 6 PM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HIKE Level 1, up to 5 mi. Meet at the home of Gary and Marilyn Doll, [2524 Clydesdale St. NE, North Canton](#). Directions: About 1/4 mile north of Mt. Pleasant on Cleveland Ave turn right onto Brumbaugh St (there is a light). Continue on Brumbaugh for 1/2 mile. Turn right onto MacKenzie Ave (entrance to St. James allotment). Take the first left onto MacDuff. Continue on MacDuff--it will turn into Sweeney. Turn left onto Clydesdale. This will be a potluck (**potluck for members only**). **BRING FLASHLIGHT.** Leaders: **Marilynn and Gary Doll**

DECEMBER 5 THURSDAY 10 AM SIPPO LAKE EXPLORATION GATEWAY Level 2/3, 3 miles. RR at library. Address: [5712 12th St. NW, Canton](#). Directions: Get to the intersection of 12th St. NW and Perry Dr. NW. Go west on 12th St. to entrance to Exploration Gateway at Sippo Lake Park on the left. Meet at the first parking lot on the right as you arrive. **Leaders: Lola & Ted Bender**

DECEMBER 6 FRIDAY 6:30 PM CHRISTMAS ELF AT NORTH POLE FOR THE CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILROAD No hiking! **Members only** Lynn Lenart

DECEMBER 7 SATURDAY 10 AM CANAL LANDS TRAILHEAD/BUCKEYE TRAIL Level 2, 5 miles (BT= 5 miles), RR. Meet at towpath parking lot on Dover/Zoar Rd. by the river. Approximate address: [8645 Dover Zoar Rd NE, Dover](#) (GPS may want Zoar) . Directions: Take I-77 south to the Bolivar/Zoar exit #93. Turn left (east) on Rte. 212 and go into Zoar. In Zoar continue on Rte. 212 past the old Zoar Tavern (Firehouse Grill). Turn right on Dover/Zoar Rd., go across the levy to the trailhead. Visit Zoar Village after the hike for the Christmas in Zoar celebration. Cost for the Christmas in Zoar celebration is \$10. Enjoy musical entertainment, a juried craft show, tour the village, and take a horse-drawn wagon ride around the village. More information here <https://historiczoarvillage.com/latestnews/events/>
Leader: Kathy Smith

DECEMBER 8 SUNDAY 9:30 AM CRAIG PITTMAN TRAILHEAD (NAVARRE) ON THE TOWPATH Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Meet at Craig Pittman Memorial Park by the water treatment plant on Canal St. in Navarre. Approximate address: [8062 Hudson Dr. SW, Navarre](#) (Hudson Dr. also called Canal St.). Directions: Take Rte. 21 to Canal St. in Navarre, turn east on Canal St., pass Bethlehem Park. Parking lot is on the right. Or take I-77 to Fohl Rd. exit. Turn right and follow to Navarre. Cut through Bethlehem Park (a left off Fohl) and turn left onto Canal St. and right into Craig Pittman Park. **Leader: Denver Fitzgerald**

DECEMBER 8 SUNDAY 2 PM WOLFCREEK TRAILHEAD/BUCKEYE TRAIL (SNYDER AVE.) Level 2, 5 miles (BT= 5 miles), RR. Address: [33 Snyder Ave., Barberton](#). Directions: Take I-77 north to exit 118 for OH-241/Massillon Rd toward OH-619. Make left onto Rte. 619 (East Turkeyfoot Lake Rd.). At the traffic circle, continue straight to stay on East Turkeyfoot Lake Road. Continue for 4.3 miles on 619 through Portage Lakes area. Turn left onto Snyder Ave. Parking 1 mile on right. We will hike the Towpath north.
Leader: Lynn Lenart

DECEMBER 9 MONDAY 9:30 AM SIPPO LAKE EXPLORATION GATEWAY Level 2/3, 5 miles. RR at library. Address: [5712 12th St. NW, Canton](#). Directions: Get to the intersection of 12th St. NW and Perry Dr. NW. Go west on 12th St. to entrance to Exploration Gateway at Sippo Lake Park on the left. Meet at the first parking lot on the right as you arrive. **Leader: Kathy Dimos 330-232-2554**

DECEMBER 10 TUESDAY 9:30 AM CRYSTAL SPRINGS TRAILHEAD Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Address: [4503 Erie Ave. NW, Massillon](#). Meet at the Crystal Springs parking lot on Erie St. across from Bocca Grande Restaurant between Canal Fulton and Massillon close to High Mill. We will hike the Towpath. Leader: **Leader: Roseanne Swigart**

DECEMBER 11 WEDNESDAY 6 PM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HIKE Level 1, 3-4 miles, RR. Meet at John and Elaine Snively's home at [816 Phillips Rd. NE in Massillon](#). See some lovely Massillon neighborhoods and downtown. Directions: Take Rte. 241 (Wales) south to Hankins, then left (east) on Hankins just beyond Reservoir Park to Phillips Rd. NE. Turn right (south) to 816 Phillips on the left. This will be a potluck supper (**potluck for members only**). **BRING FLASHLIGHT. Leaders: John and Elaine Snively**

DECEMBER 12 THURSDAY 10 AM HOOVER COMMUNITY RECREATION COMPLEX Level 2, **3 miles**, no RR at trailhead. The closest restrooms are available at Giant Eagle, Starbucks and Jimmy Johns. Address: [1325 E. Maple St., North Canton](#). Directions: From Main Street in North Canton go east on Maple about 1.2 miles. Complex will be on north side of street. Turn into the complex and drive to the rear of the parking lot. The trailhead is at the rear of the parking lot. We will hike the Hoover trail. **Leaders: Lola & Ted Bender**

DECEMBER 12 THURSDAY 5:30 PM JACKSON COMMUNITY PARK Level 1, 3 to 5 laps (3 to 5 miles), RR. Address: [7660 Fulton Dr. NW, Massillon](#). Meet at the parking lot at Jackson Park Track by the gazebo and pond. Directions: Reach it from Fulton or Wales Rd. (241). Parking lot is ½ mile west of Wales Rd. on the right. **Leader: Patty Sheppard**

DECEMBER 13 FRIDAY 6 PM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HIKE through Congress Lake neighborhood. Level 1, 3-4 miles, RR. Meet at Cathi Swallen's home at [78 East Drive Hartville](#). Directions: Follow Rt 43. North through the square of Hartville. Go straight at the light onto Prospect St. (it quickly becomes Congress Lake Rd). Pass the Pantry restaurant then go over the RR tracks. After 1 mile turn left into Congress Lake Club entrance - if you go to a sharp right curve & the Quail Hollow entrance you have gone too far. Pull all the way up to the gate at the guard house so it will open automatically. (No guard there at that time.). Follow the road to the right, pass the front of the Club. Go 1 mile. House on the left. Balloons at the mailbox as well as address. Please follow these printed directions because the GPS May take you to the wrong location. Potluck dinner to follow (**potluck for members only**). Some adult party beverages will be provided. **BRING FLASHLIGHTS. Leader: Cathi Swallen**

DECEMBER 14 SATURDAY 10 AM BOLIVAR AQUEDUCT MCDONNELL TRAILHEAD (on route 212). Level 2, 5 miles (BT=5 miles), no RR. Restroom is located 1 ½ miles away on Towpath which we will pass on our hike or you can stop at DQ/Bell Stores. gas station just off I-77 exit. Address: [715 OH-212, Bolivar](#). Directions: Take I-77 south to Bolivar exit #93. Turn right (west) following Rte. 212 through 212 through Bolivar. Go a short distance on Rte. 212 and just before the Tuscarawas river, the parking lot will be on the right. (If you go over the river and pass Shepler Church Road you went too far.) This new trailhead has a larger parking lot than Canal Bend trailhead. Come and join us for a walk on the Towpath! **Leaders: Lola & Ted Bender**

DECEMBER 15 SUNDAY 9:30 AM CANTON PARKS FROM THE GARDEN CENTER

Level 2, 5 miles, RR (may not be available nights or weekends). Meet at the Garden Center Parking Lot. Address: [1615 Stadium Park Dr. NW, Canton](#). Directions: Enter the park from 12th street, make left onto Stadium Park Dr. and go to the Garden Center Lot.

Leader: Denver Fitzgerald

DECEMBER 15 SUNDAY 2 PM VANDERHOOF TRAILHEAD/BUCKEYE TRAIL

Level 2, 5 miles (BT= 5 miles), RR. Address: [2445 Vanderhoof Rd., New Franklin](#). Directions: Take I-77/224 west to Manchester Rd. (Rte. 93) interchange, turn left on 93 and go south and turn right onto Vanderhoof Road (stop light). If you see Portage Lakes State Park sign you went too far. Continue to trailhead entrance on the right about 2.4 miles after stop light. Vanderhoof Road is south of State Rte. 619. If you are coming from the south, heading north on Rte. 93, you will then make a left onto Vanderhoof Road. We will hike the Towpath north.

Leader: Lynn Lenart

DECEMBER 16 MONDAY 9:30 AM SIPPO LAKE EXPLORATION GATEWAY

Level 2/3, 5 miles. RR at library. Address: [5712 12th St. NW, Canton](#). Directions: Get to the intersection of 12th St. NW and Perry Dr. NW. Go west on 12th St. to entrance to Exploration Gateway at Sippo Lake Park on the left. Meet at the first parking lot on the right as you arrive.

Leader: Kathy Dimos

DECEMBER 17 TUESDAY 9:30 AM CRYSTAL SPRINGS TRAILHEAD

Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Address: [4503 Erie Ave. NW, Massillon](#). Meet at the Crystal Springs parking lot on Erie St. across from Bocca Grande Restaurant between Canal Fulton and Massillon close to High Mill. We will hike the Towpath. **Leader: Patty Sheppard**

DECEMBER 18 WEDNESDAY 9:30 AM FRY FAMILY PARK HIKE

Level 3, 5 miles, RR. Address: [2533 Farber St. SE, Magnolia](#). Directions: I-77 south, take the Cleveland Ave./Rte. 800 exit (exit # 103). Turn south onto Rte. 800 and after approximately 8.5 miles turn left onto Farber St. SE. The park will be 3/10 of a mile on the left. Drive through the park to the picnic shelter on the hill. Rolling terrain and various trails on grass. **Leader: Glen Whipple**

DECEMBER 19 THURSDAY 10 AM PETROS PARK

Level 2, **3 miles**, RR. Address: [3519 Perry Dr. SW, Canton](#). Meet at the Parking Lot on Perry Road. Directions: Take Rte. 77 to Faircrest Exit south of Canton. Turn west, go to Perry Road, turn north to parking lot on the left.

Leaders: Lola & Ted Bender

DECEMBER 21 SATURDAY 10 AM BIG BEND/BUCKEYE TRAIL

Level 3, 6 miles (BT=6 miles), RR. Address: [1337 Merriman Rd., Akron](#). Meet at parking lot, Big Bend Trailhead on Merriman Road. Directions: Take Rte. 77/8 to Tallmadge Road exit. Turn left (west). Follow Tallmadge to Merriman Rd. Turn right onto Merriman. The trailhead is about 1.5 miles on the right. The park entrance sign is a little difficult to see from the road. Some hills and one water crossing. **Leader: Lynn Lenart**

DECEMBER 22 SUNDAY 9:30 AM LAKE AVE. TRAILHEAD FROM ERNIE'S Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Hike the Towpath. Address: [135 Lake Avenue NW., Massillon.](#) Directions: From Rte. 30: Follow Rte. 21 into Massillon and exit at Lake Ave. Ernie's is on the southwest corner of Rte. 21 and Lake Ave. **Leader: Denver Fitzgerald**

DECEMBER 22 SUNDAY 2 PM VANDERHOOF TRAILHEAD/BUCKEYE TRAIL Level 2, 5 miles (BT= 5 miles), RR. Address: [2445 Vanderhoof Rd., New Franklin.](#) Directions: Take I-77/224 west to Manchester Rd. (Rte. 93) interchange, turn left on 93 and go south and turn right onto Vanderhoof Road (stop light). If you see Portage Lakes State Park sign you went too far. Continue to trailhead entrance on the right about 2.4 miles after stop light. Vanderhoof Road is south of State Rte. 619. If you are coming from the south, heading north on Rte. 93, you will then make a left onto Vanderhoof Road. We will hike the Towpath south. **Leader: Lynn Lenart**

DECEMBER 23 MONDAY 10 AM ME AND MY DOG HIKE METZGER PARK Level 2, 5 miles, RR. Meet at Metzger Park on Nickleplate Rd. in Louisville. Address: [1420 S. Nickelplate St., Louisville.](#) Directions: Take Rte. 62 to Louisville exit. Take Rte. 44 south (Ravenna Ave.) to center of Louisville, turn east (left) on to Main St. (Rte. 153). Go to 2nd light (Nickleplate), then turn right (south) to the park on the left. This is past the high school and across from the YMCA. Hike the Nickelplate Trail. **Leader: Karla Bedard**

DECEMBER 24 TUESDAY 9:30 AM CRYSTAL SPRINGS TRAILHEAD Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Address: [4503 Erie Ave. NW, Massillon.](#) Meet at the Crystal Springs parking lot on Erie St. across from Bocca Grande Restaurant between Canal Fulton and Massillon close to High Mill. We will hike the Towpath. **Leader: Roseanne Swigart**

DECEMBER 26 THURSDAY 10 AM LAKE AVE. TRAILHEAD FROM ERNIE'S Level 2, **3 miles**, (BT=3 mi.) RR. Hike the Towpath. Address: [135 Lake Avenue NW., Massillon.](#) Directions: From Rte. 30: Follow Rte. 21 into Massillon and exit at Lake Ave. Ernie's is on the southwest corner of Rte. 21 and Lake Ave. **Leader: Lucy Figg**

DECEMBER 27 FRIDAY 6 PM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HIKE Level 2, **3 miles**, RR. Let's hike through the Avondale neighborhood! Meet at the home of Marilyn Shaheen, [3035 Brookway Road N.W., Canton.](#) Directions: from Fulton Road, turn onto Westmoreland. Turn right onto Brookway Road, which borders the north side of Spiker Park. Marilyn's house is the middle house on Brookway. There is parking available in the driveway and also in the Spiker Park parking lot across the street from the house. **BRING FLASHLIGHT.** We will meet for dinner afterwards at Grinders (3114 Whipple Ave N.W.). **Leader: Marilyn Shaheen**

DECEMBER 28 SATURDAY 10 AM IRON HORSE TRAIL IN ALLIANCE Level 1, 6 miles, RR. Address: [1141 W. Beech St., Alliance.](#) Directions: Take US 62 east towards Alliance. Turn right on Beech, the first street past the PARIS light on US 62. Go east on Beech approximately 4.2 miles (past stops at Easton and Beechwood) to First Christian Church on left. Trailhead and parking is adjacent to the church. Lunch afterwards at Don Poncho's, [2105 W State St, Alliance.](#) **Leaders: Lin Wu and Cheryl Paine**

DECEMBER 29 SUNDAY 9:30 AM LAKE AVE. TRAILHEAD FROM ERNIE'S Level 2, 5 miles, (BT=5 mi.) RR. Hike the Towpath. Address: [135 Lake Avenue NW., Massillon.](#) Directions: From Rte. 30: Follow Rte. 21 into Massillon and exit at Lake Ave. Ernie's is on the southwest corner of Rte. 21 and Lake Ave. **Leader: Denver Fitzgerald**

DECEMBER 29 SUNDAY 2 PM CLINTON TRAILHEAD/BUCKEYE TRAIL Level 2, 5 miles (BT=5 miles), RR. Approximate address: [2749 North St., Clinton.](#) Directions: Take Erie St from Canal Fulton to Clinton and turn left on North St. Parking lot on the right. We will hike the Towpath north. **Leader: Lynn Lenart**

DECEMBER 30 MONDAY ME AND MY DOG HIKE 10 AM METZGER PARK Level 2, 5 miles, RR. Meet at Metzger Park on Nickleplate Rd. in Louisville. Address: [1420 S. Nickelplate St., Louisville.](#) Directions: Take Rte. 62 to Louisville exit. Take Rte. 44 south (Ravenna Ave.) to center of Louisville, turn east (left) on to Main St. (Rte. 153). Go to 2nd light (Nickleplate), then turn right (south) to the park on the left. This is past the high school and across from the YMCA. Hike the Nickelplate Trail. **Leader: Karla Bedard**

DECEMBER 31 TUESDAY 6 PM NEW YEAR'S EVE HIKE AND PARTY (party for members only) with Patty Sheppard. Level 1, up to 5 miles, RR. Meet at her home at [8466 Bald Eagle Circle, Massillon.](#) Directions: From the north take Fulton Rd. to Amherst Rd. Turn left on Amherst. Go left on Ranier. Patty's house is on the corner of Ranier and Bald Eagle Circle. From the south take Amherst to Audubon. Turn right on Audubon. Turn left at the stop sign onto Ranier. Bring a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. **BRING FLASHLIGHT. PLEASE RSVP TO PATTY BY DEC. 30 FOR A COUNT.** **Leader: Patty Sheppard**